

Hamas to stop killing collaborators

GAZA (R) — The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, said Sunday it would stop killing Palestinians who collaborated with Israel and urged Palestinian police to deal with them. Hamas made the statement in a leaflet a day after it said it killed two men it suspected of being collaborators in the Gaza Strip, now a Palestinian self-rule area. Mohammad Dahlan, Palestinian preventive security chief, said Saturday those responsible for the killings Friday would be "dealt with by the Palestinian authority through legal measures." In the leaflet sent to an international news agency, Hamas said it would stop killing collaborators for the time being and called on "all its fighters to commit themselves to this position." The Islamic Resistance Movement "demands the Palestinian police understand our position, and we urge them to confront the danger of collaborators and speed up a solution to this manner," it said. The deaths of the two alleged collaborators were the first such reported killings since the May 4 self-rule agreement between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israel.

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Saddam Hussein takes over as premier

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein sacked his prime minister Sunday and took over personally as head of a new government. The ruling Revolution Command Council (RCC) said the change was needed because of the "unjust (U.N.) embargo and the need for special effort on economic issues to protect the living standards of the people. There were no major changes in the cabinet, with ministers keeping their posts. But the RCC announcement, carried by the official INA news agency, said Mr. Hussein would have three deputy prime ministers. These were Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan, Tareq Aziz, already a deputy, and Mohammad Hanan Al Zubaidi. All are members of the RCC. Prime Minister Ahmad Hussein Khudayir was sacked after the Iraqi dinar currency plunged to new lows, sparking a direct attack on him by a newspaper published by Mr. Hussein's son, Uday.

Al Hassan leaves for Cairo

CAIRO (Petra) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Sataan Al Hassan Sunday arrived in Cairo to participate in ministerial meetings of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) conference due to open Tuesday. Mr. Al Hassan told Jordan Television before departing to Cairo that the four-day conference will discuss, among other issues, the future of NAM, the structure of the United Nations and its General Assembly and Security Council and political issues including the Middle East peace process.

Bouez arrives in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Bouez arrived in Amman Sunday to take part in the 17th ministerial session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCPWA) which opened here earlier in the day (see page 3). In statements upon arrival, Mr. Bouez said his participation in the meetings carry special significance since the Lebanese capital, Beirut, is one of the candidate cities to host ESCPWA headquarters, noting that ESCPWA was based in Beirut until the start of the Lebanese civil war. He said he will meet with several Jordanian officials during his stay in Amman for talks on issues of common interest.

Honecker dies in Chile

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Erich Honecker, who supervised construction of the Berlin wall and ruled Communist East Germany with an iron fist for 18 years, died Sunday in Chile. He was 81. Mr. Honecker spent his final days in Chile, bitter in self-imposed exile and unrepentant about his brutal regime. Mr. Honecker's lawyer Nicholas Becker, reached by telephone in Bonn, said he didn't know the immediate cause of death. Mr. Honecker had lived in Chile since early 1993 with his wife Margot and their daughter Sonja. A spokesman for German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, whose aggressive push for reunification led to the end of East Germany, released a brief, blunt statement. "Honecker failed in his political goals. His policies brought suffering to countless people in Germany. Out of respect for the dead, it is fitting to say little more about his role in postwar German history," said spokesman Dieter Vogel.

Israel allows in 91,000 Palestinian workers

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel decided Sunday to allow 13,000 Palestinians to enter the country to work, raising the total number of workers from the Gaza Strip and West Bank to 25,500, the labour ministry said. The ministry's spokesman Hanan Robin said the 13,000 construction workers would have to be over the age of 25, married, and have already worked in Israel for at least five years, for security reasons. Since the army sealed off the occupied territories April 7, following a bus bombing which left eight Israelis dead, the closure has been progressively eased.

Communists win absolute majority in Hungary election

BUDAPEST (AFP) — Hungary's former communists won an absolute majority Sunday in the second round of the country's general election, the national election centre said. Known as the Hungarian Socialist Party, led by Gyula Horn, the former foreign minister in the communist administration that fell in 1989, the former communists were certain of getting 197 seats out of 386, with 99.92 per cent of the vote in, the centre said. The absolute majority is 194 seats (See earlier story on page 10).

Sanaa rejects U.N. role in halting civil war

CAIRO (Agencies) — Yemen's Foreign Minister Mohammad Bassandawa Sunday rejected U.N. efforts to secure a ceasefire in his country's civil war, denying an Egyptian report that Sanaa had changed its mind.

Yemen "rejects any U.N. Security Council interference in its internal affairs," the foreign minister, a northerner, told reporters here after a meeting with Arab League chief Esmat Abdul Meguid.

His Egyptian counterpart Amr Musa said earlier that Mr. Bassandawa had agreed to a U.N. debate on the north-south civil war, following talks with President Hosni Mubarak.

"Sanaa has agreed that the question of a ceasefire be examined by the U.N. Security Council," in contrast to its previous stand that the international community should stay out of the conflict," Mr. Musa said.

Mr. Bassandawa himself said earlier that the council "must insist on preserving Yemen's unity" and reiterated the north's conditions for a ceasefire with the breakaway south.

"We want an end to the fighting as well as a Security Council decision in this direction," the foreign minister said. "Then a dialogue could be launched between the two parties."

He added the south must go back on its May 21 declaration of an independent state, "because this decision is illegal" under the constitution of Yemen, which was unified in May.

The parliamentarians rejected as "high treason" their civil war foes' declaration of secession.

It's hardline statement, carried on state radio, contradicted reports that Sanaa and the breakaway southerners based in Aden were moving closer to a ceasefire in the three-week-old war.

In Aden, Haitham Qassim Taher, the southerners' defence minister, also saw no imminent truce. He told reporters on Sunday: "It is too early to talk about this (ceasefire) now... We are in a period of military escalation."

The south has welcomed the plan, while insisting that northern troops withdraw to the old border between conservative, tribal North Yemen and former Marxist South.

But in Sanaa, Deputy Prime Minister Abdelwahab Al Ansari told European Union ambassadors Sunday that U.N. intervention would be in violation of the organisation's charter.

U.N. action "exposes countries which have far more serious problems than Yemen to interference in their internal affairs," he said.

The Yemeni parliament also rejected outside interference to the civil war, saying such action would only serve to encourage secessionists, the official news agency Saber reported.

Interference by any state, regional or international organisation would also violate the Yemeni constitution, parliamentarians said.

(Continued on page 10)



HIS ROYAL Highness Prince Mohammad Taher, the Regent, Sunday receives Qatari Minister of Finance, Economy and Trade Sheikh Mohammad Bin Khalid Bin Hamad Al Thani (centre) in the presence of Chief

Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Bin Zeid. The Qatari minister is in Amman to take part in the 17th ministerial session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia which began Sunday (see story page 3) Petra photo

House insists on segregating sexes at sports facilities

AMMAN (Petra) — The segregation of sexes at swimming pools and sports clubs came under scrutiny by the Lower House of Parliament Sunday as deputies discussed the amended youth welfare law, which was turned back to the House by the Upper House of Parliament (the Senate) after several amendments were introduced.

"I expect the Security Council to discuss the Yemeni problem in the next few days and to issue a resolution calling for a ceasefire," the envoy, Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas, told AFP before flying to Kuwait.

"The resolution will be binding to all parties and we are ready to stick to it. I think it is in the interest of the Yemeni people to halt the war," he said.

Mr. Attas met United Arab Emirates (UAE) President

youth shall segregate sexes at swimming pools. The clause was deleted by the Upper House.

The House's Judiciary Committee insisted on maintaining the clause in the law, saying sexual segregation in public swimming pools "conforms with our Islamic values and the deeply-rooted morals of our society."

With some deputies saying it was difficult to segregate the sexes in private swimming pools or on the Aqaba and the Dead Sea beaches, others called for specifying which pools would fall under the provisions of the law. They said that it was possible to apply the article to the ministry's swimming

pools, while it was difficult to apply it to those of hotels, touristic facilities and Aqaba and the Dead Sea beaches.

They said the law should not include swimming pools at touristic areas since this might affect the tourism industry.

The House then approved the amended 1994 Civil Courts Law after its Judiciary Committee introduced several amendments to it. It commenced its debate of the amended Municipalities Law, which was sent back to it by the Senate, which introduced several amendments to it. The House approved some of these amendments but insisted on preserving others as they were passed by it.

Embargo could be lifted in foreseeable future

AMMAN (R) — The United Nations official overseeing Iraq's disarmament said Sunday he expected the Security Council to hold detailed discussions in July on easing crippling trade sanctions imposed on Baghdad.

Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Commission monitoring Iraq's adherence to the Security Council's demands for dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, said there were no major differences with Iraq on efforts to monitor Baghdad's weapons.

Mr. Ekeus, who had meetings with Amer Rasheed, head of Iraq's Ministry of Military Industrialisation in Amman on Saturday and Sunday, said he would brief the security council on the latest developments at a closed session on May 31.

"This matter is of course very high on the agenda," he told reporters asking if the United Nations was considering lifting sanctions on Iraq, imposed after its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

"I think it is a good hope that this (lifting the embargo) can happen within the foreseeable future," he added.

A prerequisite for lifting sanctions is the establishment of a technical baseline from which Iraq's future arms developments can be measured.

Iraq, which says it has complied with most Gulf war ceasefire terms, rejected an earlier U.N. scheme that would let it sell limited quantities of oil under strict terms to buy food and medicine.

Mr. Ekeus said it was important Iraq accept, and not obstruct, "the very complex control system we impose upon it on the basis of the resolutions."

He said Iraq had demonstrated a positive attitude in working with the United Nations in the past month. He said that contrasted with Iraqi attempts to block the controls before, it accepted the system last November.

Mr. Ekeus said Iraq and the United Nations were largely agreed on guidelines.

"For us it is more that we have to satisfy ourselves and the international community that we have a good control system in place and it is hard work."

The system, he said, in-

Aden requests Jordan's mediation

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament has not yet responded to a request by a southern Yemeni official to play a "prominent role" in mediation efforts to end the war in Yemen in accordance with conditions set by the Yemeni parliament.

Mr. Yehya also called on the Kingdom to work with other "Arab brethren" to launch unconditional negotiations between the warring parties in Yemen under the auspices of the Arab League.

The southern Yemeni official said Aden welcomes a prominent role for Jordan in negotiating an end to the war, especially that Amman hosted the signing of the Yemeni reconciliation accord in February.

Civil war erupted in Yemen on May 4 after Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his then Vice President Ali Salem Al Beidh failed to find a peaceful settlement to their conflict.

"We will not impose anything on any side," one lawmaker said.

Diplomats have said the gov-

ernment hopes the dialogue will help form a "national front" which would draw Egypt's weak and divided secular opposition into alliance with the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) against the Islamists.

The committee will choose participants and set an agenda for the talks, which the government hopes will rally secular opposition groups to its struggle against the militants.

"This is not just an invitation to take decisions, formulate programmes, or survey opinion. But (to take a) serious and responsible consideration of Egypt's future," Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak told newly appointed committee members.

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ernment hopes the dialogue will help form a "national front" which would draw Egypt's weak and divided secular opposition into alliance with the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) against the Islamists.

But Mr. Mubarak said dialogue had broader aims than simply isolating religious extremism.

"The invitation to dialogue was not a response to a national crisis, forced by circumstances... or a broad move to form a party bloc, a so-called 'national front,'" Mr. Mubarak said.

"It is a sincere national call which rises above party factionalism, which fuses together the Egyptian state, government, people and society in

one organisation working for Egypt's national cause," he said.

Members of the preparatory committee include prominent figures in all major political parties, including the ruling NDP and the socialist Labour Party, a leftist group which has had a tactical alliance with the Muslim Brotherhood.

Leaders of professional unions sympathetic to the Brotherhood, which is banned but in practice tolerated, have also been appointed to the committee.

Mr. Mubarak, who earlier this month blamed the Brotherhood for religious violence in Egypt, repeated his insistence that no illegal parties

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued on page 5)

PLO to stick to accord but will seek statehood Policy statement promises free, fair elections

TUNIS (Agencies) — The

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) will stick to the self-rule accord but will still seek a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital, the new self-rule authority said in remarks obtained here Sunday.

The authority said it is "completely bound by commitments undertaken by the PLO" including the accord signed with Israel on May 4 in Cairo, as well as the Declaration of Principles signed in Washington in September.

And it repeated its commitment to "all that is capable of creating peace between the Palestinians and the Israelis."

The pledge followed a row over a speech by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on May 10 in a Johannesburg mosque in which he called for a "jihad" or holy war to recapture Jerusalem, which was broadcast by Israeli radio two weeks ago.

Meanwhile, a senior Palestinian official said that the new Palestinian National Authority (PNA) will "start

work on the ground" this week when ministers who live in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip return home from the first PNA meeting in Tunis.

"Some PNA members are returning today (Sunday) to the West Bank and Gaza Strip to start their new job, and those exiled will go later but have to start planning new structures and preparing budgets," Samir Ghoussous, the PNA minister of labour, told Reuters.

The PLO Saturday handed out 15 from the 22 portfolios of the 24-member PNA, with two key economic posts awarded to men who negotiated the peace deal with Israel, Ahmed Qureia (Abu Ala) and Nabil Shaath.

PLO officials said that senior Palestinian leader Faisal Al Hussein and Munib Al Masri (from Nablus) will stay as "ministers" without portfolios at their own request.

They said PNA chairman Arafat — who will also keep the interior and security portfolio — has been mandated to continue consultations to

distribute the remaining portfolios.

The PLO is seeking to recruit some opposition leaders to the PNA, PLO sources said. Discussions are continuing with Abu Nidal Amsalem, a moderate leader in the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

In Jericho, Russian envoy Victor Possovaluk praised both Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat for the launch of Palestinian self-government.

"We urge our people to stand in a united front against the police and security forces of the self-rule authority which came to implement orders of the occupier..." the statement said.

Mr. Possovaluk, on a Middle East tour as a special envoy of President Boris Yeltsin, said: "We appreciate the policies of Mr. Rabin's government which has allowed the Palestinians to take control of Gaza and Jericho."

"It is a chance the Palestinians cannot afford to miss." The envoy also praised the PLO for its policies and said he "appreciated the personal" of Mr. Arafat.

On Monday, Mr. Possovaluk is to meet Mr. Rabin and Palestinian leaders in East Jerusalem.

In Damascus a radical

group demanded the release of Islamic activist Hani Abed who was detained by Palestinian police.

A statement by Islamic Jihad, which opposes the PLO's peace deal with Israel, also urged Palestinians in the self-rule areas of the Gaza Strip and Jericho to rebel against the Palestinian police who have taken over security duties from the Israelis.

"We urge our people to stand in a united front against the police and security forces of the self-rule authority which came to implement orders of the occupier..." the statement said.

Mr. Abed, 31, a university lecturer and journalist, was arrested at his office by Palestinian police last Tuesday.

The Palestinian police, working on behalf of the Israelis to put an end to the uprising, carried out the Israeli repressive action..." it said.

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"According to the agreement, all institutions must be in Gaza or Jericho," said Oded Ben Ami, spokesman for Mr. Rabin.

South Yemen's air power keeps Saleh out of Aden

DUBAI (AFP) — Southern Yemen's air power, courtesy of the former Soviet Union, has thwarted Yemeni President Ali Abdallah Saleh's battle plan of a quick capture of the southern bastion of Aden.

More than 100 MiG-21, MiG-23, and Sukhoi warplanes have flown sorties each day, mainly from Aden airport, to keep the president's northern troops at bay.

The bombers, supplies by the Soviet Union in the days of pre-unification South Yemen, have the terrain in their favour.

They are defending against an enemy which, now that it has broken through the mountain passes, is exposed on the front-line north of the port city of Aden.

"That's why the northern forces are having trouble advancing" in the two weeks

since they seized the key southern military base of Al Anad, 60 kilometres from Aden, said a diplomat in the region. "They are totally uncovered."

The same goes for the western and eastern fronts, where the well-trained southern air force has kept the northerners pinned down.

General Saleh also has a strong air force, but most of his 70 fighters have been kept on the ground, apparently because Aden oil refinery has cut off supplies to the north.

From the earliest stages of the civil war, which erupted on May 5 after nine months of political crisis between Mr. Saleh and his southern rival Ali Salim Al Beidh, the north boasted that Aden was on the verge of falling.

And yet Aden's airport is still operational, even though missile and air attacks have

closed it to civilian flights, as is its vital refinery and its port, albeit at a slower rate.

After the initial shock, the south has reorganised its troops to resist an army which is numerically superior.

"A son who has been beaten up by his father will stop obeying him in the end," southern Colonel Mohammad Abdallah told AFP at the war-front to the east of Aden.

Southerners, generally fiercely opposed to the war, charge that the conservative, tribal north had tried to dominate and annex the formerly Marxist south since the country was unified on May 22, 1990.

On May 21, the eve of the fourth anniversary of united Yemen, Mr. Beidh declared a separate state in the south, the Yemen Democratic Republic (YDR).

The United Nations, at the prompting of neighbours Saudi Arabia and Oman, is trying to arrange a ceasefire but Mr. Saleh is still after a military solution to keep Yemen united and wants the international community to stay out.

Anis Hassan Yahia, chairman of the Provisional Assembly of National Salvation, the YDR's week-old caretaker parliament, sent a message to Jordanian Parliamentary Speaker Taher Al Masri Saturday, an official source in Aden said.

Mr. Yahia asked for the "rapid intervention" of Jordan, which brokered an unheeded peace accord last February, with the aim of "stopping the war, returning the warring armies to their original positions and starting immediate negotiations without preconditions under the aegis of the Arab League.



Yemeni soldiers take cover behind a wall as control of the key military base at Al Anad, some fighting goes on since three weeks between south 50 kilometres north of Aden (AFP photo)

Time running out for Israel-Syria peace — Eban

By Rosalind Mandine Murphy
USA

WASHINGTON — It is incumbent upon Israel and Syria to conclude a successful peace agreement by the end of 1994, as "time is not on the side of the peace process," says Abba Eban, former Israeli foreign minister and ambassador to the United States.

Mr. Eban, now the Shapiro professor of international affairs at George Washington University, commented on the status of the Middle East peace process during a National Press Club luncheon on May 27.

The former diplomat predicted that while there will be setbacks in the peace process, "the reciprocal interests of the profound, they won't give up on this effort."

Those reciprocal interests, Mr. Eban underscored, are at the core of the Syrian-Israeli track. In dealing with Syrian President Hafez Assad, Israelis must "believe in his realism not his virtue," he stressed. Repeating that "time is not on the side of peace," Mr. Eban urged the parties to make 1994 "the year to bring the Israeli-Syrian dialogue to a successful

close." He said that the U.S. "could play a very determined role" in achieving this goal, but did not elaborate further.

Alluding indirectly to recent statements by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on Jerusalem and the legal structure of Gaza and Jericho, Mr. Eban said "bombastic threats," while "deplorable," are not decisive to the future of the peace process.

What is decisive to the success of peace, he said, "is what is happening on the ground." The way in which the Palestinian authority maintains order

is close." He said that the U.S. "could play a very determined role" in achieving this goal, but did not elaborate further.

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Algerian teenage girls arrested as Islamic agents

ALGIERS (AP) — Three teenage girls have been arrested as "liaison agents" for an armed Islamic group, security forces announced Saturday, while the leading independent newspaper said its directors and a reporter have been forbidden to leave Algeria.

It was the first time young girls have been implicated in the more than two-year-old bloody insurgency by Muslim radicals.

The girls were arrested and jailed Wednesday after a search of one of their homes in Ouanoukrim, near M'sila, in eastern Algeria. Police found an automatic pistol, subversive documents and police license plate numbers, a statement by security forces said.

The girls, aged 17 and 18, said they were "indoctrinated"

by their math teacher, Mr. D'Abou Elyes, who has gone into hiding.

Meanwhile, the top directors of the newspaper El Watan and a journalist who wrote an article about possible changes in the workings of the presidency have been forbidden to leave Algeria, the paper said.

The paper said in a statement that the move was a "first step" and "the jailing of the staff and the author of the article are envisaged."

The freewheeling Algerian press has been among the victims of the insurgency by Islamic extremists. Nervous officials in the military-backed government have muzzled newspapers censoring some and occasionally arresting reporters, while Islamic extrem-

ists have made journalists a prime target of their attacks.

A dozen journalists have been killed since May 1993. Some 4,000 people — civilians, police and Islamic extremists — have been killed since the start of the insurgency aimed at toppling the government.

Security forces said they killed 23 armed extremists in operations around the country between Wednesday and Friday.

President Liamine Zeroual, who took office in February, has adopted a dual approach to ending the crisis, using a firm hand against Islamic guerrillas while offering dialogue to fundamentalists who reject violence.

El Watan said it learned of the threatened arrests Friday,

a day after publication of the article concerning "a new diagram for the presidency."

Communications Minister Mohamad Ben Ammar Zarbouni summoned executive editor Tayeb Belhiche and reporter Khaled Messoudi to his office.

"The article in question has been likened to divulging a national defence secret when it only was a diagram of an administration," the paper said.

If charged and jailed, the journalists risk 10 to 15 years in prison, it added.

In the article, El Watan said that a diagram for changes in running the presidency was the object of "negotiations, even bargaining on the sidelines, among officials in charge of the various structures."

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Arafat courts rivals, names ministers in self-rule authority

By Salah Nasrawi
The Associated Press

TUNIS — Yasser Arafat is packing the interim Palestinian governing body with his own people, suggesting that he may plan to concentrate power in former Israeli-occupied zones in his own hands.

The Palestinian National Authority will have legislative, executive and judicial powers in the newly autonomous Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho under the PLO's autonomy agreement with Israel.

A permanent elected body is to take over in the future. But the 24-member Interim Council, headed by Mr. Arafat, could establish a solid power base for the PLO leadership and give him an edge when elections are held.

PLO officials disclosed Saturday that Mr. Arafat has named himself interior minis-

ter of the autonomous zones. Fourteen other prominent Palestinians, most of them his allies, have been appointed to other portfolios.

By giving himself the key interior portfolio, Mr. Arafat will control the 9,000-member Palestinian police force in Gaza and Jericho. Many of the police officers are veteran guerrillas loyal to Mr. Arafat, and many Palestinian see this force as Mr. Arafat's private army.

The interim government will, in theory, hold power only a few months until parliamentary elections are held.

But even as grass-roots resistance swells against Mr. Arafat's handling of the peace negotiations and his autocratic leadership, it would be in his interest to put off the elections while he builds a power base. Balloting, therefore, may not be held for at least a year.

Only woman so far given a portfolio, minister of social welfare. She is the widow of Mr. Arafat's military chief and strategist, Khalil Al Wazir, assassinated by Israeli commandos in Tunis in April 1988.

Saeed Erekat, a Fatah official from Jericho who was deputy leader of the Palestinian delegation to Washington peace talks and critic of the autonomy accord, minister of local government.

Freih Abu Meidan, a prominent Fatah official and head of the bar association in Gaza, minister of justice.

Mr. Arafat has had extreme difficulty finding qualified people to sit on the authority, and creating a balance between his longtime allies in the exiled PLO leadership and Palestinians who endorsed the 27-year Israeli occupation.

He has also had to accommodate other power

the peace delegation. Ms. Ashrawi has strongly criticised the autonomy accord. Mr. Arafat's leadership style, and has refused repeated requests by Mr. Arafat to sit on the national authority.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Ms. Ashrawi has established the Palestine Independence Commission for Human Rights, which will lobby for democratic reforms in the Palestinian entity and combat corruption, widespread within the PLO.

Mr. Arafat has had extreme difficulty finding qualified people to sit on the authority, and creating a balance between his longtime allies in the exiled PLO leadership and Palestinians who endorsed the 27-year Israeli occupation.

He has also had to accommodate other power

centres — such as Palestinian clans, political factions, and secular and religious groups.

PLO sources said Mr. Arafat dispatched an envoy to Syria on Saturday in a last-ditch effort to persuade hardline Palestinian groups based there to join the authority despite their opposition to the accord with Israel.

The leadership of the Marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the PLO's second-largest faction, reportedly is contemplating doing that to pursue its opposition to Mr. Arafat from within.

A delegation from Hamas, an Islamic fundamentalist faction based in Gaza and the West Bank, was due in Tunis this weekend after secret contacts with Mr. Arafat. It has demanded five seats on the authority, but Palestinian sources said Mr. Arafat has only offered two.

JORDAN TELEVISION

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PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Starcom 3/3

18:30 Beaumanoir

18:41 L'Ecole Des Fans

19:00 News in French

19:15 ... The Weekly Sports Magazine

19:20 ... News in Arabic

20:30 ... The Nanny

20:55 ... Equinox

22:00 ... News in English

22:20 ... Black Powder

23:10 ... Top Cops

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr

05:27 ... (Sunrise) Dhuha

12:33 ... Dhuhur

16:14 ... Asr

16:49 ... Maghreb

21:11 ... Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweileh, Tel. 810740

Assembly of God Church, Tel. 628785

Saint Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637400

De la Salle Church Tel. 601757

Terranets Church Tel. 622366

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Mukhlis Halasa 611220

Dr. Yousef Sammour 615648

Dr. Khalid M'sadi 743500

Fires

Home News

Regent reviews bilateral ties with Qatari, S. Korean officials

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the Regent, Sunday reviewed with Qatari Minister of Finance, Economy and Trade Mohammad Bin Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, means of further enhancing bilateral relations in various fields.

The Qatari minister conveyed the best wishes of Qatari leader Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad to His Majesty King Hussein.

The audience was attended by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Bin Zeid, King Hussein's political advisor Marwan Al Qasem, Finance Minister Sami Gammoh and the Qatari Ambassador to Jordan Nasser Abdul Aziz Al Nasser.

The Qatari minister is taking part in the 17th Ministerial Session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), which started here Sunday.

Also Sunday, the Regent,

reiterated Jordan's firm position towards the establishment of a just and durable peace in the region, in accordance with international resolutions.

Prince Mohammad was speaking during an audience at the Royal Court with the South Korean President's envoy, Su Ji-Park, who delivered to the Regent a message from President Kim Young Sam to King Hussein.

The message deals with bilateral relations and means of furthering them.

The Korean envoy praised Jordan's role in maintaining peace and stability in the region and its endeavours to establish a just and comprehensive peace.

The audience was attended by Prince Ra'd, Mr. Al Qasem, Minister of State Fawaz Abu Ghannam and Korean Ambassador to Jordan Hahn Choo Lee.

On Sunday Prime Minister

Majali details Jordan's peace efforts, democratic march to U.S. scholars

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Sunday stressed Jordan's concern for establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the region and reviewed the Kingdom's role in the Arab-Israeli peace process.

Addressing a 12-member delegation of the Fullbright Foundation, currently on a visit to Jordan, Dr. Majali said the country has played a major and effective role in the peace process since the convening of the 1991 Madrid Middle East Peace Conference.

The Prime Minister said Jordan has always extended support to the Palestinian people to enable them to regain their legitimate rights on their national soil.

He stressed the unique brotherly relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples and noted Jordan's support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Dr. Majali reviewed the root causes and stages of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the international circumstances prevailing during each historical era, until the fall of the Soviet Union and the emergence of new international order.

The Prime Minister briefed the delegation on Jordan's democratic experience, saying that it has become a source of pride for every Jordanian citizen.

He dismissed any relation between fundamentalism or extremism and Islamic law or Islamic thought, saying that such terms, which are sometimes used by the West, are incorrect and erroneous expressions. Dr. Majali underscored the role played by Islam and Muslims in en-



IN RECOGNITION: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Sunday receives the Jordanian Cardiac Society's (JCS) trophy from JCS President Yousef Quassas, director of the Royal Medical Services. Dr. Majali opened the association's second conference on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (Petra photo)

riching human civilisation.

The meeting was attended by Minister of Higher Education Saeed Al Tai.

The Fullbright Foundation team also met Sunday with the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament Ahmad Lawzi and Taher Masri for discussions on the Middle East situation.

Faouad Suleiman, the head of the visiting delegation from the U.S., said the group's visit aimed at gaining close-hand knowledge of Jordan's democratic experiment and discussing the progress in the peace process and prob-

lems impeding a final solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Dr. Suleiman said the delegation was also eager to learn more about modern Islam in its true image and the extent of Islam's impact on Jordanian life.

Messrs. Lawzi and Masri reviewed Jordanian-U.S. relations and spoke in detail about the situation in the Middle East region.

According to a U.S. embassy official here, the delegation groups university professors teaching at several colleges in the United States.

Zu'bi relieved of Parliament post

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter



NEW PRESIDENT The Jordanian Businessmen's Association Sunday elected a new administrative committee headed by Hamdi Tabbaa. Mr. Tabbaa, a former minister of Industry and Trade, replaces President Ibrahim Al Zein, who died more than a week ago. The society's general assembly elected Fakher Bileisi as vice president, Farouq Al Azzeh as treasurer and Thabet Al Taher as secretary.

AMMAN — The General Secretary of Parliament Saleh Al Zu'bi has been relieved of his duties and appointed an advisor at the prime ministry, informed sources told the Jordan Times Sunday.

The sources said the Cabinet decided to remove Dr. Zu'bi from his post during a session Saturday, but has not yet agreed on a replacement for him.

Dr. Zu'bi who had earlier worked as an ambassador, took up his post at Parliament in 1990.

Sources said among the candidates to replace Dr. Zu'bi are Helmi Al Sarabi, a legal advisor at the prime ministry and Hakam Kheir, who is the official spokesman of Al Watan Party.

Mr. Kheir's affiliation with Al Watan, however, could

weaken his chances to land the job as it is preferred that the general secretary of Parliament is an independent figure, the sources said.

"We hope that the newcomer would be able to redress the deterioration in support services provided to deputies by the general secretariat," one lawmaker told the Jordan Times.

The deputy said there has been a noticeable regression in the quality of administrative services awarded to lawmakers, which reflected on their ability to deal effectively with issues of concern to the public.

Other parliamentary sources echoed the lawmaker in expressing dissatisfaction with the performance of the general secretariate, saying they hoped the change would bring about an improvement in the services it is supposed to extend to lawmakers.

WHAT'S GOING ON

* Danish film entitled "Pelle Le Conquerant" at the French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

* Installation entitled "Ephemeres de un Circle" by artist Noell Favreliere at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibeh at 5:00 p.m. (Tel. 643251/2).

* Exhibition of paintings by disabled children at the Royal Cultural Centre.

* Exhibition of paintings by 20 Jordanian and Iraqi artists (including Widad Orfali, Hussain

Da'seb, Waddah Al Ward, Adnan Al Hilu and Mahmoud Hussein) at Orfali Art Gallery in Umm Uthaima (Tel. 826932).

* Exhibition by 46 artists entitled "He, Bonjour Monsieur La Fontaine" at the French Cultural Centre.

* Exhibition of water colour paintings by artist Itab Hreib and another exhibition of ceramics by Sajida Al Mashaliki at Ain Art Gallery in Wadi Sagha (Tel. 644451, 652823).

Crown Prince calls on ESCWA nations 'to create a new pattern' of relations

By Natasha Bukhari
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday urged all countries of Western Asia to "create a new pattern of both bilateral and multilateral political, economic and social relations" in order to be well-equipped to deal with the worldwide ramifications of regional and political blocs.

Deputising for Prince Hassan at the 17th Ministerial Session of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), which opened here Sunday, Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz said,

"in addition, there is the peace process currently unfolding between the Arabs and Israel, the results of which have gradually begun to take concrete form."

Stressing the vitality of the member countries' cooperation at this progressive stage, the minister also emphasised the importance of exploiting energy sources, increasing joint economic operations among the region's nations preserving the environment and the proper exploitation of the region's limited water resources. ESCWA has 13 member states situated in the Middle East, and the commission's

headquarters has been temporarily situated in Amman after having moved from Baghdad following the Gulf war. Proposals from Jordan, Lebanon and Qatar to host the commission on a permanent basis will be studied.

On the meeting's agenda for this session, the permanent headquarters of the commission will be agreed upon by the heads of delegations of ESCWA member states.

Speaking on the subject during recesses in Sunday's meeting, participants expressed fear of the political implications of the commission's headquarters' next location saying that issues of human development are being highly politicised.

"Politicising such matters can be destructive rather than constructive at this critical stage of political instability in the region," one participant told the Jordan Times.

The ESCWA officer, who preferred anonymity, said that headquarters should not be located in Iraq under a dictatorial regime. He added that Palestine, as a possibility, is out of the question, because the picture of the nature of the new Palestinian authority is "still dim."

During Sunday's seminar, heads of delegations convened



Participants to the 17th Ministerial Session of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Sunday attend the opening events (Petra photo)

representatives of international and Arab organisations.

The report addressed the progress made in the implementation of the programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993 and was followed up by discussions on the action on the resolutions adopted at its 16th session.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Premier checks progress on cancer centre

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Sunday reviewed with representatives of groups concerned with the establishment of Al Amal Cancer Centre progress on the work at the centre. During a meeting at the Prime Ministry, attended by Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas, Director of Royal Medical Services Lt.-Gen. Yousef Qossous, University of Jordan Hospital Director Samih Abu Al Raghib and President of the General Union of Voluntary Societies Abdulla Al Khatib Dr. Majali urged the parties concerned to speed up work on the centre in preparation for its opening before the end of the year.

Egyptian, Sudanese officials visit Jordan Valley

AMMAN (Petra) — Agricultural engineers from the Egyptian and Sudanese ministries of agriculture, currently in Jordan to attend a training course, Sunday visited the southern Jordan Valley region and were acquainted with agricultural activities and projects carried out by the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA). They also visited the Arab Potash factory and were briefed on its establishment and production capacity.

In the name of God

Open letter

Subject: Announcement about a very useful scientific discovery

Addressed to: the Director General of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation UNESCO (General Secretariat); to: The Cultural Attachés at embassies in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; to: The International cultural and scientific organisations concerned with research and humanities.

I am very pleased to announce that as a Jordanian writer, researcher and philosopher, I Abdul Latif Isheid Shdeifat, am quite ready to present and expound my new scientific discovery which I have called: the new applied and analytical psychology. I will be pleased to attend any seminar or take part in a workshop or scientific or cultural conference to be organised for the purpose of this discovery to be held under the title of "An Answer To Every Question" within the framework of the new applied and analytical psychology. May I point out that the following parties could benefit from this science: educational institutions, social development departments, scientists, sociologists, psychologists, the media, the police, politicians and various managements.

NOTICE

I regret to say that I am the only professor of this science in the world as I am responsible for its discovery and its sound principles and I can prove its benefits and feasibility. This science has escaped the eyes of the world and was not formally recognised until I published three booklets and a book about this science in 1981 in Baghdad. Several years later, I have read an article in a newspaper reporting that western Germany had set up a special institute to teach this science based on the same scientific references on which I had based my principles for this science and my studies and research work. I have based my research work on a branch of science related to astronomy and astrology called the secrets of the horoscope — and this is an international scientific analysis designed to determine the nature of the personality of each person mentally, psychologically and behaviourally and persons' faculties and potentials and their preferences, their mood or their way of thinking through analysing different phenomena and events, as well as in relation with the persons' soul and matters related to man's life. This science has real potential of determining the degrees of persons' successes in education, work, profession, specialisation etc ... and can help people determine matters related to suitable marriages or the most suitable business partners or friends. It can also help direct man's attitudes with regard to business and public relations and can help define the proper circumstances and the climates that can ensure success. I would like to remind the reader that this is the third time in which I address the world about this science in the Jordan Times because it is printed in English — a world language — so that the report about the scientific discovery can spread fast since it is a major scientific breakthrough and because it provides a genuine and sound guideline for self-assessment and assessment of other persons' knowledge.

All my publications have run out and I cannot find anything left otherwise I would have translated their contents and sent you a copy.

However, the last word is for the science itself because it is the main reference which will reveal my vast experience theoretically and practically and project my creativity in this field.

For this reason I have decided to again advertise my discovery pointing out its practical benefits hoping it would attract your attention so that it can be of benefit for all people. thank you

28.5.94

my address: c/o the post office of Manshiet Ban Hassan — Mafrag, Jordan.

الجدران الـ 15 للـ 15

NEW ENGLISH SCHOOL

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TEL: 827151, 827152, 827153, 827154 - FAX: 816894

The New English School, Khalda, Amman

Applications are invited from experienced, qualified teachers of (a) English language and/or literature and of (b) Economics and Business Studies to take up appointment at the start of the 1994-1995 academic year (mid August).

Proven experience of teaching to I.G.C.S.E and/or 'A' level is required for both vacancies

Post (a)

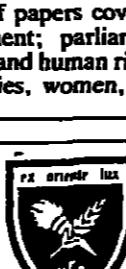
The successful applicant is required to teach English language to I.G.C.S.E. and English literature to the same level. Some teaching will also be required in Grade 9.

Post (b)

The ability to offer Business Studies to I.G.C.S.E. and Economics to both I.G.C.S.E. and A level is required.

Applicants for both posts should be able to demonstrate the ability to work as part of a team and to promote their subject specialism to a high profile within the school curriculum. Also, candidates will be expected to play a full role in pastoral work and in the thriving area of the school's extra-curricular activities programme.

Interested candidates should apply by letter, enclosing a curriculum vitae together with the names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers of two professional referees. Application packages should be sent to the Director General (Mrs. Ophelia Bishouty), New English School, P.O. Box 154, Khalda, Amman, by Wednesday, 8th June at the latest. Candidates selected to come to interview will be notified as soon as possible after this date.



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ESCPWA at home here

ON top of the agenda of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCPWA) ministerial meeting that opened in Amman yesterday is deciding on a permanent location of this U.N. regional organisation. In addition to Amman, Baghdad, Beirut and Doha are vying for hosting ESCPWA after the commission shifted headquarters first from Beirut to Baghdad and then Jordan temporarily in the aftermath of the Gulf crisis and war. The commission moved out of Beirut in the middle of the Lebanese civil war in 1976 on a temporary basis and then "permanently" to the Iraqi capital only to be forced out again following the occupation of Kuwait.

For all intents and purposes the scars of the Lebanese conflict have yet to be effectively healed as evidenced by the recurrent cycle of violence in that Arab country. To be sure Lebanon has made great strides to recover from the 15-year old civil conflict and is hopefully well on its way to reconstruct its infrastructure on all fronts. But while we wish Lebanon and its people a full recovery, the fact remains that the healing process there has not yet reached the level that its people are aspiring to.

Bağdad on the other hand is no longer a tenable alternative in view of its continued isolation as a result of the invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

This leaves Amman as the most convenient location for ESCPWA since Jordan has demonstrated already that it has the right political and economic climate to continue to host ESCPWA. There is a notable stability in the country accompanied by progress on all fronts. The infrastructure in Jordan is well built, making our capital an ideal location for any international or regional organisation, such as ESCPWA. Besides being a safe, clean and well serviced capital, Amman happens to be also centrally located and easily accessible to the 13 members of the organisation. This is in addition to the fact that considerable expense has been invested already to house the commission, which can ill afford periodic transfers from one country to the other.

Surely the ministers who are attending the current session would want to deal with other substantive issues than just the location. Above all they must be concerned with how to elevate the organisation into an action-oriented regional institution where the ratio between bureaucratic expenses and the overall operational costs is kept at a sensible level. The scope of coordination between the commission and the UNDP and the Arab League's Economic Council must also be enhanced to avoid duplication of efforts. Above all, the commission must be allowed an opportunity to handle effectively many pressing economic issues facing the area, especially in the wake of the positive developments in the region and the promise of peace for all its peoples.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily said Sunday that while certain Arab countries are trying hard to bring about reconciliation between the northern and southern parts of Yemen, other Arabs are trying to fuel the fighting in that embattled nation. Some Arabs have an interest in internationalising the conflict between the north and south as they do not wish to see unity in place for longer, said the paper. This situation, said the paper, can only open the door wide for the leaders of the so-called new world order to tamper with the destiny of the Yemeni people who firmly oppose such intervention in their own affairs. What some Arabs are doing now is similar to their behaviour that led to foreign intervention in the Gulf crisis that should have been contained within the Arab World and settled through Arab mediation efforts alone, added the paper. Not only did certain Arab parties succeed in bringing tragedy to the Arab World through their irresponsible actions during the Gulf crisis they also paralysed all attempts towards ending the divisions among Arab states four years after the Gulf crisis ended, said the paper. The paper warned against any intervention in the Yemeni crisis by the United Nations Security Council, stressing that the only solution to the conflict can come through the will of the various Yemeni political groups.

Human Rights File

Turkey's reforms promise end to turmoil

TURKISH Prime Minister Tansu Ciller unveiled a belated series of democratisation policies and measures last week to improve her country's human rights record and image that have been strained by persistent allegations about ineffective individual human rights instruments and the denial of the Kurdish minority's ethnic and cultural rights. The Kurdish problem in Turkey is perhaps the most formidable of all domestic and foreign issues that Ankara has been facing over several decades. In this sense it overshadows other equally important human rights causes in the country since many capitals especially in Western Europe have consistently used the Kurdish card to condemn Turkey's human rights record. The attempt by Prime Minister Ciller to do something meaningful about this domestic and international issue, therefore, deserves recognition and requires analysis. The resolution of the Kurdish question in Turkey will certainly end the bloody war that has been waging for so many years between the Turkish armed forces and separatist Kurdish Party (PKK) guerrillas.

Mrs. Ciller is now proposing the introduction of amendments to no less than 10 articles in the Constitution of the land which would also grant Turkey's Kurds "ethnic and cultural rights," on condition that these rights would not prejudice the national unity of the country. This is a giant step towards the recognition of the Kurds as a distinct ethnic minority with cultural rights. It could bring the country closer to meeting international human rights standards as reflected in several U.N. conventions notably the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

The Turkish prime minister deserves to be commended for this bold step which can never be fully understood or appreciated except against the backdrop of decades long denial of Kurdish rights. It is expected, of course, that some Turkish political leaders would regard this human rights move as fraught with untold dangers threatening the national unity of the republic. There are Turkish voices that see in this the seeds for the birth of a Kurdish entity that could mushroom into something alarming for the future of the country.

However, a more sober look at Mrs. Ciller's bid to tackle the "Kurdish challenge" would reveal that Ankara is in fact on

the right course and has everything to gain. First of all, Turkey has always denied the existence of the Kurds, as "people" on the strength of the argument that the Turkish nationality is not based on race, ethnic background or religion. To be a Turk, the world was often reminded, is just like being an American of a different colour, race, national or ethnic origin. That was the predominant perspective within Turkish official circles. The recognition of the Kurds as, different people, it was feared, would only open the Pandoran box for other minorities in the country to claim their own separate identities.

While these Turkish fears can be understood they nevertheless run counter to contemporary human rights trends as reflected in the ICCPR and elsewhere in international human rights law. There is now more awareness than ever that most countries are in fact multi-national, multi-racial or multi-ethnic states that are bound together by common history, geography and shared values and interests. Canada, for example, prides itself on being a multi-ethnic multi-religious and multi-racial country. However, the national aspirations of the French-speaking province of Quebec are being taken into consideration. The U.S., long described as a melting pot, is now giving way to accepting the fact that it rather is a multi-diverse society in which everybody blends in a salad bowl. In the U.S. blacks have resurrected their African roots and Hispanics are demanding more and more linguistic, cultural and political rights within the framework of the country as a whole. Name any country from the Far East to the Far West and from the far North to the far South, and you will readily notice the rebirth of sub-national sentiments. This is the new spirit and there is no way of stopping it permanently or effectively short of resort to perpetual armed suppression that cannot be expected to prevent the inevitable from occurring.

Ankara has little to fear from its recent step. Such a policy change would enable Turkey to become party to several human rights treaties that it should have signed and ratified a long time ago. Turkey portrays itself as part of the Western world and has repeatedly made a bid to join the EEC. There is no way that Ankara can be accepted in the Western club without meeting its minimal standards on human rights and this much the Turkish prime minister has recognised the

minute she stepped into her office. Granting the Kurds of Turkey their cultural and other linguistic rights would seem to pivot in changing the overall image of the country for the better. I see now the door wide open for Turkey to ratify the ICCPR which has been ratified already by more than 120 nations of the international community. Ankara's accession to such a broad based human rights instrument could also serve the needs of the nation not only in terms of image reparation but also in deploying this very convention to preserve its cherished national unity.

Article 27 of the ICCPR is most helpful for Mrs. Ciller. It reads as follows: "In those states in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities exist, persons belonging to such minorities shall not be denied the right, in community with other members of their group, to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practice their own religion, or to use their own language." This provision which could be the basis for granting the Kurds of Turkey their cultural and linguistic rights has been amplified and interpreted by the Human Rights Committee which is the quasi-judicial international organ that monitors the implementation of the Covenant as to exclude the division of any country when such rights are recognised and implemented.

This should be consoling to Ankara. Even more relevant is the Committee ruling that the rights recognised under Article 27 do not include the right to self-determination which is a completely separate right not covered by this article. The danger point for Turkey could arrive if the Kurds of Turkey succeed in their claim that they constitute a "people" and not a minority. Yet even on this potential flash point, the ICCPR as currently constructed would not tolerate the dismemberment of any state party by virtue of the enjoyment of the right of self-determination by a "people" within a state party.

This is indeed a vexing issue that the greater majority of the state parties to the ICCPR treat most delicately. As far as I know, none would yield to the disfiguration of their state and insist on interpreting the terms and provisions of the Covenant as absolutely ruling out the secession of any part of the country from central authority. On balance, therefore, Ankara has little to fear and a great deal to gain from its recent change of course.

Hamas seeks a place at the table

By Graham Usher

WHEN THE Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)-Israel peace agreement was struck last September, many commentators believed that the moment augured the eventual demise of Palestine's Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas. This was predicated on a view which held that Hamas' rise in the occupied territories was largely by default of the PLO's fall. Palestinian Islamists — so the argument ran — had garnered popular support as a kind of epiphenomenon, on the one hand of mounting Palestinian frustrations due to the impasse of the Madrid peace process and on the other, of the PLO's increasingly serious financial crisis. With the Oslo accords, however, not only had the PLO's political hegemony been restored this time with Israel's blessing as "the sole legitimate representative" of the Palestinian people; perhaps more important, the agreement would replenish the movement's coffers and so lubricate the networks of support and patronage through which "legitimacy" could be consolidated in Palestinian society.

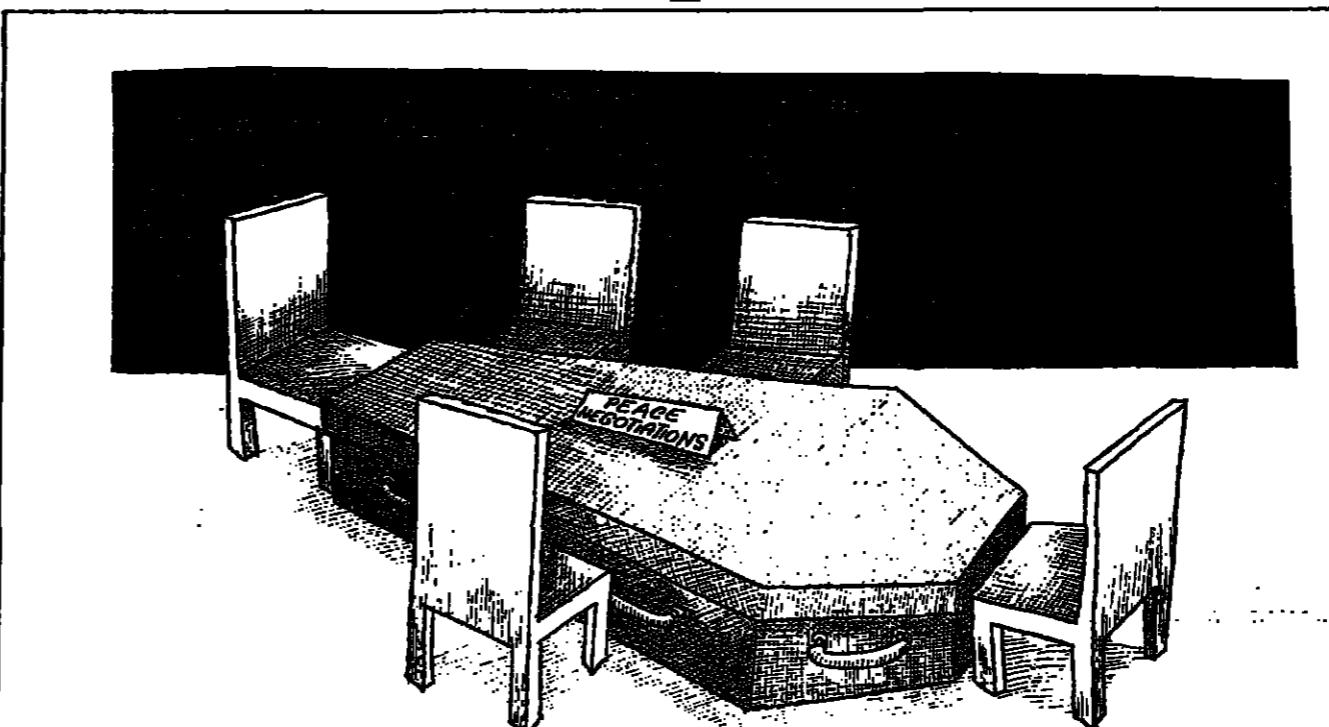
Six months down the road, the argument requires some revision. Hamas' recent military actions against Israeli civilians in Afula and Hadera in "revenge" for the Hebron massacre have pushed the Israeli government to the brink of its worst crisis since Oslo, with polls showing more Israelis against the agreement than for it for the first time.

What is the political import of Hamas' actions? Are they desperate acts of last resort by an organisation in its death throes, crippled by massive Israeli repression and politically side-lined by the unfolding and irreversible reality of Gaza-Jericho? Or are they the latest turn in a finely calibrated political and military policy which, since the agreement, has been tactically virtuous but strategically consistent in pursuit of an entirely feasible goal — one which seeks neither the destruction of the PLO nor of Israel, but rather a place at the table of self-rule?

The gun

Hamas' first reactions to the Oslo accords were of absolute rejection couched in terms of high treason. "We will mobilise Palestinians in the occupied territories to destroy the agreement, by force," railed a communiqué in September, while West Bank Islamist Sheikh Hamad Bilawi issued a religious ruling in October calling for death to all those participating in negotiations with Israel.

On the ground, however, Hamas' military actions were more circumspect, targeting soldiers and settlers inside the territories with no attacks on Palestinian political figures, no matter how fervent their endorsement of the accords. In December, Hamas declared that it had killed 11 soldiers and four settlers since the "conspiracy of Washington", while the movement's spiritual guide, Ahmad Yasin, let it be known in the Hebrew press quickly leaving the West Bank and Gaza, "a sentiment



M. KAHL

attacking Israeli women, children and elderly."

In the words of Israeli General Aharon Yariv, Hamas "understands that the aim of any military operation is political." And the aim since September has been less to scupper Oslo completely than to draw out its implementation, working on the accurate prognosis that the longer the delay the greater the haemorrhage of PLO support.

Actions like Hamas' ambush in December of Colonel Mintz, coordinator of the Israeli army's undercover operations in the Gaza Strip, or of Shin Bet operative Noam Cohen, assassinated by one of his own informants in Ramallah in February, not only generate huge political *kudos* on the Palestinian street they succeed in putting the fear of death into the Israeli security establishment. But if Hamas' military targets are Israeli, their political sights are set firmly on the PLO leadership, and particularly Mr. Arafat. Given the loathing with which most Palestinians view the Shin Bet and undercover units, no Palestinian leader in their right mind could possibly condemn the killing of either Mr. Mintz or Mr. Cohen, and Mr. Arafat pointedly refrained from doing so. His problem is that whereas for the Israelis silence is tantamount to complicity, for Palestinians any public disavowal suggests collaboration, and fuels speculation about future PLO-Israel "coordination" on security as abominated in the Declaration of Principles. Mr. Arafat is thus damned if he speaks and damned if he doesn't.

A similar logic of war as politics by other means obtains with Hamas' actions in the wake of the Hebron massacre, and particularly their hitting Israeli civilians inside the Green Line. In a statement after the Afula killings, Hamas said that a cessation of the attacks was "conditional on Israeli settlers quickly leaving the West Bank and Gaza," a sentiment

that polls show 88 per cent of Palestinians in the territories concur with. The main difference with Hamas' "living martyrs" tactic — the suicide missions responsible for the Afula and Hadera killings — is that it is designed to put the squeeze on Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin as much as Mr. Arafat by whipping up Israeli opinion. According to a survey published recently in *Yediot Achronot*, 70 per cent of Israelis would consider "autonomy a failure if terrorists continue to murder Jews."

Mr. Rabin knows that Mr. Arafat is ultimately powerless to stop Hamas, not only because of "internal constraints" but because such impotence is written into the accords, where it states categorically that Israel retains responsibility for "external security" and for "Israeli civilians" in the West Bank and Gaza. Hamas knows this too. "If Hamas launched an attack against Israelis in Gaza during the autonomy, this would undoubtedly cause problems for the PLO leadership," one Islamist told MEI. "But what if Hamas were to hit targets in Tel Aviv? What has the PLO to do with the protection of Tel Aviv?"

Mr. Rabin's choice in the face of this comes easily to him. He closes off the territories, rounds up hundreds of Hamas' "suspects" and launches massive punitive raids like the one that claimed the death of four "terrorists" and an innocent bystander in Hebron on March 22. Yet each successive clamp-down not only chips away at the PLO's rapidly diminishing base in the territories, but also at Mr. Rabin's own conviction that "only Arafat can rule the self-rule."

The political "meaning" of Hamas' military policy since Oslo was best encapsulated by one of their most astute watchers — Israeli journalist Danny Rubinstein. "Hamas terrorist activities contain two main political messages,"

he wrote in *Ha'aretz* on Dec. 21. "The first — to Arafat and the PLO — is do not dare ignore us; the second — to the state of Israel — is that negotiations with the PLO do not constitute the final word and that Hamas must also be taken into account."

The olive branch

If Hamas' military policy has been a considered one of spectacular hits designed to pack the maximum populist punch, a similar foresight marks its handling of relations with the PLO and especially Fatah. However rejectionist the public face, Hamas' stance towards the other PLO factions since last September has been essentially conciliatory, signalling that the movement is fully cognizant of the new political realities thrown up by self-rule.

In the immediate aftermath of the agreement, the greatest fear on the Palestinian street was that its passing would lead to civic strife between the Palestinian movement's nationalist and Islamist wings. A devious mix of clear political direction and discipline on the part of both leaderships has kept this nightmare scenario largely at bay. In September PLO and Hamas prisoners signed a pact banning inter-Palestinian violence to resolve "political disagreements over the accord", while Hamas declared that the job of Islamist leaders "is to fight against any confrontation between supporters and opponents of the PLO-Israel agreement". Apart from one or two skirmishes at street level, this line of political coexistence has been adhered to, even in relation to potentially explosive issues such as collaborator killings and the rule of the Palestinian police.

In fact, from the moment Mr. Arafat shook Mr. Rabin's hand most Islamists knew that the Oslo accord was politically irreversible. "We can't stand up and say to

people we want the occupation to stay. That would be irrational. You have to be realistic or the current will move you aside," said one in September. The issue for Hamas was what was going to be their place in the self-rule, and particularly their stance towards the elections for the Palestinian Self Governing Authority. The interaction with the Palestinian authority. This interaction, it turns out, has entirely cultural and legal ambitions. If the PLO allows Palestinian civil society to be managed "in a democratic way", ensures that school curricula be won from the nationalists as civil structures to mobilise and consolidate Islamism's social strength "from below."

If this is the case, the object of the Islamist opposition will then cease to be the Declaration of Principles, still less Israel, but rather the social culture of self-rule.

"The Islamic movement has no interest in defeating the Declaration of Principles by force," says Bassam Jarar. Rather, it sees "interaction with the Palestinian authority".

This interaction, it turns out, has entirely cultural and legal ambitions. If the PLO allows Palestinian civil society to be managed "in a democratic way", ensures that school curricula be grounded on "Islamic civilization", and stipulates that all personal status and family legislation is based on the *Shari'a*, then Mr. Jarar concludes, "there can be reconciliation."

The signs are that of the PLO leadership such a trade-off would be alluring. It leaves the political and economic spoils of autonomy largely in their hands, and lets them (and the Israelis) off the hook on matters of security. On news of the accord in Gaza, Mr. Arafat was said to be "willing to discuss any proposal from Hamas", while, at a joint rally held at Gaza's Islamic University on April 24, Fatah spokesman Diab Luh urged the Islamists to "join the elections" since "it is the right of Islamic and national parties to establish the Palestinian authority."

For other Palestinians in the occupied territories the vision of unreconstructed PLO rule married to an Islamist culture is hardly one of home. For constituents to whom national liberation had meant not just the acquisition of office but also an ideal espousing secularism, non-sectarianism, democracy and authentic decolonisation, one thing is at last becoming clear. Unless they mobilise and mobilise now, against Hamas on its chosen terrain of civil society and law, the day may come when, for many Palestinians, the prize of autonomy from the Israelis may not be worth the social, cultural and legal price of peace with their Islamist compatriots.

The price

The announcement, on April 24, that Fatah and Hamas' military wings in Gaza had agreed an accord proscribing violence between them, coupled with the news that similar talks were happening in the West Bank, left Israeli leaders crying treachery. For Palestinians in the occupied territories, however, its meaning was transparent — Hamas, finally and publicly, had accepted Oslo as fact and was about to set out its store the new politics it embodies.

What does Hamas want?

Whatever local dividends may accrue from the April pact, it is clear no rapprochement between the PLO and Hamas — none at least that will endure the long arm of Israel's security forces — is feasible without a commitment from the Islamist to end the armed struggle. While figures like Mr. Jarar say that "Hamas will cease military operations when it sees it to be in its best interest to do so," recent statements from the movement indicate that the time of "interest" may be close at hand. On April 19 — in an "important

JOEL, is 115

Features

Embargo could be lifted

(Continued from page 1)

cluded censors, aerial surveillance and inspectors which have been accepted by Iraq even if it did not fully support them.

"I do not think they are happy with it, and they protest especially the U-2 (reconnaissance aircraft) operations still, but they go along with it, at least, and this is enough for us that we can carry out the work," Mr. Ekins said.

A 10-member U.N. team arrived in Iraq on Saturday to assess its biological arms capability.

Team leader Dave Franz said his assessment would be used by the U.N. special commission to set monitoring guidelines. He said his team would visit sites in and around Baghdad that had previously been inspected.

Two other teams, monitoring missile and chemical weapons, went to Baghdad last week.

In Baghdad a spokesman for the ruling Revolution Command Council said Iraq is determined to continue cooperation with the U.N. Security Council to have sanctions lifted or eased despite American insistence on keeping them in place.

The leadership in Iraq appreciates the attitude of countries which have taken a positive and fair stance in the (Security) Council's deliberations.

Egypt names committee

(Continued from page 1)

could take part in the dialogue.

"The call is directed to legitimate national forces," he said.

Nearly 400 people have been killed in political violence in Egypt since March 1992, when Muslim militant groups began a violence campaign to overthrow the government.

Opposition parties hope the dialogue will be used to discuss changes in political and economic laws that could bring more democracy and ease restrictions on the economic system.

Israel wants

(Continued from page 1)

of dollars in aid to the autonomy areas.

The Orient House, the PLO headquarters in Jerusalem, has become a de facto foreign ministry where Palestinian leaders receive dignitaries from abroad.

The PLO also has plans to expand the police force guarding the Orient House to other PLO offices and officials in Jerusalem, according to both Palestinian and Israeli officials.

Also irritating to the Israelis was PLO leader Yasser Arafat's recent call for a "jihad," or holy war, to free Jerusalem, and publication of the PLO's draft constitution for Palestinian autonomy that declared Jerusalem the capital of the would-be state of Palestine.

"Just as the Israelis have repeatedly declared Jerusalem their own eternal capital, we have the right to declare our own capital," said Anis Qassem, chairman of the PLO Legal Committee that drafted

the proposed constitution. "It is allowed for them and not us?"

Mr. Rabin announced Friday that he planned steps to ensure all offices of the Palestinian authority would be based in Jericho and not move to Jerusalem.

An Israeli official who demanded anonymity said the government would try to avoid physical confrontation and instead use pressure tactics such as cutting off telephones, water and electricity, if the PLO did not comply.

Jerusalem's police have been instructed to increase their watch over the Orient House to check for expansion of more offices running the Palestinian Authority, another official said.

Police spokesman Eric Bar

Chen declined to comment on the new orders, but quoted Police Minister Moshe Shahal as saying police would prevent "the setting up of any Palestinian authorities in Jerusalem."

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Judy Leden

By Jennifer Hamarneh
and Rana Husseini

Special to the Jordan Times

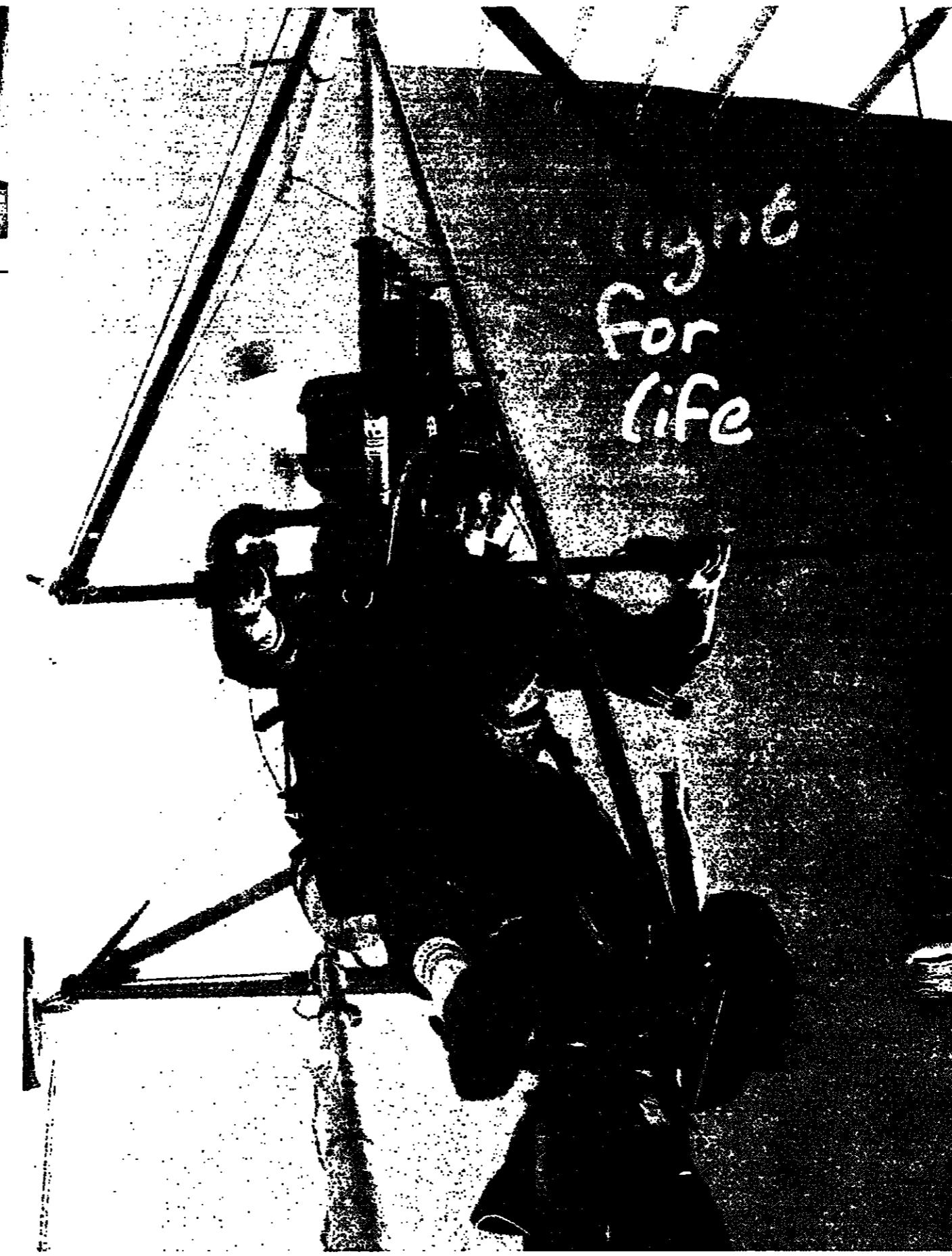
AMMAN — Early this year, Yasmin Saudi lost her battle with cancer at the age of 25, but not her dream of a "flight for life."

Yasmin loved flying, to her it was "part of life," and even as she fought lung cancer, the Cambridge graduate planned to co-pilot a microlight flight from England to Jordan to raise money for cancer research.

Yasmin's family, friends and flight colleagues will see her dream achieved on Monday when the microlight team of Ben Ashman and Judy Leden are expected to touch down in Jordan, completing their 4,000 kilometre journey from Oxford to Amman.

The Ashman-Leden team, with whom Yasmin was to have flown last year, took off from Oxford Airport on May 15. Continuous updates of the team's progress have been received here in Jordan by Yasmin's father, Ghazi Saudi.

Mr. Saudi told the Jordan



Ben Ashman sails his microlight over Wadi Rum



Yasmin Saudi

in relation to drug testing and clinical trials.

Professor McVie would also like to discuss which Jordanian dc could become involved in clinical trials of new treatments.

In addition, Professor McVie, who is a member of the European Union for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC), is expected to review applications for grants to visit specialist treatment hospitals around the world to learn new techniques.

Meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. Saudi, a European club experienced experts, and Ms. Leden, a women's world hang gliding champion, are en route to Jordan from Syria.

They have travelled through France, Germany, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, and Turkey.

According to Mr. Saudi, their dedication to this courageous endeavour is uplifting. He said the two pilots are taking a great risk in memory of his daughter and explained that the microlight weighs only 25 kilograms and has a wing span of 20 metres.

Not only does the team have to brave the possibilities of all sorts of inclement weather, but the luxuries of a hot and cozy bed are few and far between on this mission. Often the team has spent the night protected overhead only by the wings of the microlights.

After arrival in Jordan, the team will be occupied with a 10-day programme that includes, a meeting with Prince Ra'ad, a visit to the Royal Jordanian Gliding Club (RJGC) at Marka Airport, an airshow and open day for public flying at RJGC, a visit to Al Amal Cancer Centre, flights over Petra, Wadi Rum, Ajloun, Jerash and Amman, and school visits.

Only a week before she passed away, said her father, Yasmin, weak but with tremendous will, took to the air one last time. This is what she loved most, said Mr. Saudi.

So when the "Flight for Life" makes its final approach on what will probably be one of many such missions, the team will alight in Amman to a warm welcome — and with Yasmin's spirit on their wings.

A 'flight for life'

A young athlete's dream comes true

Yasmin was particularly interested in getting youth interested in flying because she said it required much ability and courage.

Coinciding with the arrival of the "Flight for Life" team is an expected visit to Jordan by Director of the Scientific Department of the Cancer

Research Campaign J. Gordon McVie, a professor of oncology.

While in Jordan, Professor

McVie plans to lecture on the recent advances in cancer treatments. His main areas of research concern drugs, discovery of new anti-cancer drugs, clinical pharmacology

TAYBET ZACTAN

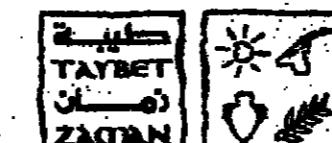
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Clean technologies: A golden opportunity for U.S. companies

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The world market for environmentally friendly technology, presently at \$200 billion and growing, is attracting an increasing number of U.S. businesses targeting Asian nations.

This sector has clearly strengthened since the first international environmental summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The industry benefits from the Clinton administration, which has staked a strong interest in cleaning up the environment as well as spurring the development of "green technologies" to increase U.S. exports.

The administration has encouraged the latter by subsidizing exports through agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The industry profits as well from World Bank interest in environmental protection.

This golden opportunity, which could reach \$600 billion in the year 2000, is equally coveted by the French companies Lyonnaise des Eaux-Dumez and Generale des Eaux, and the German electronics giant Siemens.

In the United States, the firms range in size from giants like WMX Technologies (formerly Waste Management), with \$10 billion in business for 1993, and Bechtel, with \$7.3 billion, to the average-sized like Solarex, at \$30-\$35 million, or smaller ones such as Spire or United

Solar.

Exports are critical for waste treatment technologies and for those centered on pollution prevention. Solarex exports around 65 per cent of its solar panel production, mainly to Western Europe and Asia.

The Asian market, currently estimated at \$80 billion, could reach \$120 billion before the turn of the century.

To profit from this windfall, the United States in 1992 launched the Asian Environmental Partnership (AEP) a cooperative effort with Asian countries which has already rendered \$400 million in clean technology sales.

"We are committed to achieve five to \$10 billion into the next five years" in this framework, said an AEP source speaking on condition of anonymity.

A 1948 law limited commercial banking activities to only four foreign banks already operating here at the time — Citibank N.A., HongKong Bank, Standard Chartered and Bank of America.

At least 11 European and Asian banks have expressed interest in coming into the country under the new law, according to monetary officials.

Under the new banking act, the Monetary Board — the country's highest monetary authority — may allow six new banks to set up fully-owned branches in the Philippines, with the president authorized to admit four more.

Manila opens up banking system

MANILA (AFP) — President Fidel Ramos has signed a law allowing more foreign banks to operate commercially in the Philippines, easing more than four decades of protectionism.

The law, which fulfills a key requirement of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for approval of a \$650 million programme, allows up to 10 additional banks, from the current four, to set up branches in the country.

Businessmen hailed the new law as a boon to foreign investment and a strong impetus for the modernisation of the domestic banking cartel, which has long been criticised for inefficiency and extreme conservatism.

"Asia is attractive because economies are strong, it offers political stability and there is interest in environmental issues. And you know that they will pay," said William Brown of WMX, the world's leading waste treatment corporation.

The principal export targets are Taiwan, which could release \$30.5 billion for the environment over six years; South Korea with \$11.4 billion over five years, and Hong Kong with \$6 billion or \$7 billion before the year 2000.

However, all covet the fabulous Chinese market, which could reach \$35 billion before 2000.

BEIJING (Agencies) — China's economy continued to size in April and the acute problems of state industry haunted prospects for a soft landing, economists said.

Inflation in April lost some momentum, but the growth rate, prices and debts of state enterprises continued to rise at double-digit rates, according to official data.

Industrial output rose by a year-on-year 17.9 per cent, the State Statistical Bureau said, nearly two percentage points higher than the rate recorded in the first three months of the year.

China wants to slow growth from the 13.4 per cent rise in gross domestic product (GDP) recorded last year, to avoid overheating.

Its main mechanism has been a clampdown on fixed asset investment, which last year nearly spun out of control as millions of dollars were poured into speculative building projects.

China's companies continued to invest at a swift pace in April, with completed fixed asset investment up by a year-on-year 44.2 per cent. The rate was eight per cent higher than that recorded in the first three months of the year.

But the official media was quick to note it was far below the 66.1 per cent year-on-year growth recorded in April 1993. The slowdown had some effect on inflation.

The state clampdown on fixed-asset investment helped take the air out of China's ballooning inflation rate in April," the official China Daily said.

The residents' consumer

China's economy sizzles, state industry languishes

price index, a broad measure of inflation, rose a year-on-year 21.7 per cent in April compared with the 22.4 per cent rate recorded in March.

Many foreign and Chinese economists are gloomy about China's ability to control inflation. The government must continue to prop up inefficient state enterprises with hefty subsidies which play havoc with the money supply.

The Communist Party is caught between fear of social unrest caused by anger at inflation and fear of labour unrest which would follow the collapse of loss-making factories.

Economists say a pattern of boom and bust economic cycles will thus continue, with periods of giddy growth followed by sharp clampdown.

Data showed state industry was still in serious trouble. The value of unsold products in warehouses rose a year-on-year 13.3 per cent at the end of April, the China Daily said, terming the figure "disastrous."

The growing stockpiles in warehouses add to the difficulties of enterprises suffering from a lack of credit," it said.

Moreover, the increasing stockpiles are shoving more enterprises into defaulting on their debts," it added, raising the frightening spectre of a credit collapse.

Debt of state enterprises jumped a year-on-year 29.5 per cent at the end of April, the State Statistical Bureau said.

China's foreign trade remained in deficit in the first four months of the year, with imports exceeding exports by

\$1.75 billion. Imports totalled \$29.79 billion, up a year-on-year 20.3 per cent, while exports were \$28.04 billion, up 22 per cent.

China ran a full-year trade deficit last year for the first time since 1989.

But April was the first month since September 1992 in which the growth rate for exports exceeded that of imports, the official media said.

Meanwhile, China has fore-

cast its economy would expand by 12 per cent in the first half of 1994, an announcement that made its goal of pegging growth and inflation to below 10 per cent look increasingly unrealistic.

In a report carried by all major newspapers, State Planning Commission spokesman Wei Liqun said industrial output would grow by 18 per cent from January to June over the same period last year, while fixed asset investment and consumer sales would rise by 30 and 22 per cent respectively.

A Western economist said the forecasts suggested China would have difficulty bringing 1994 growth below 10 per cent. Growth last year was more than 13 per cent.

"In the first quarter, they said 12.7 growth was a seasonally adjusted figure in line with real growth of about 10 per cent. There's not much seasonality in the first six months, so it's a good indicator of where they are really going," he said.

Mr. Wei was however upbeat about figures for the first four months of the year, saying they reflected the success of reforms implemented in recent months in the hope of cooling down the overheated economy.

Industrial output grew 16.4 per cent in the first four months over the same period last year, while fixed asset investment rose 38.4 per cent, Mr. Wei said. The figures were down from some 25 per cent and nearly 70 per cent respectively between January and April last year.

The official said the slowdown in fixed asset investment had created a stable supply of raw materials, predicting that this would help bring down inflation in the second quarter of the year.

Inflation was running at 20.1 per cent nationwide and some 26 per cent in big cities in the first quarter.

However, the economist said China was unlikely to come anywhere near its target of bringing annual inflation down from some 13 per cent in 1993 to below 10 per cent this year, despite efforts to control the rate artificially by reimposing price controls.

"Twelve per cent economic growth really is too high to be consistent with bringing down inflation," he said, adding that the true aim of China's present anti-inflation policy seemed to

end to stop it going any higher.

The Chinese official also pointed to a recovery in state sector production in April, with output increasing five per cent over the same month last year.

The figure compared with a 2.2 per cent rise in a state enterprise output in the first quarter of the year, when the loss-making sector was badly hit by tight credit policy aimed at fighting inflation.

A Western diplomat said the sudden jump might also reflect a move "to play down little bit the extent to which the sector is in trouble" and rationalisation in China's compilation of figures on state enterprises.

As enterprises have taken foreign partners, Chinese statistics have not been accurately adjusted to reflect their transfer from the category of "state enterprise" to "joint venture," he said, adding that this had made the situation in the state sector look even worse than the reality.

In the another area, the Chinese government is moving to restore order in the country's chaotic mining sector, plagued by a series of horrific accidents, illegal operators and an almost total lack of regulatory control.

According to the Guangming Daily, the main problem facing the central authorities is the surge in the number of small township coal mines which number about 120,000 and account for more than 40 per cent of total coal output.

Nearly one-third do not have operating licences and 70 per cent fail to meet basic safety standards, the newspaper said.

A recent government circular calls for the elimination of all unlicensed mines as well as an

end to the poaching of resources from state-run mines.

There are 11,200 private or small collective mines — most unlicensed — operating within the 103 key state mines, the Economic Daily said.

Many of these encroach on the reserves of the state farms, poaching an estimated 568 million tonnes annually at an economic loss to the government of more than 21 million yuan (\$2.4 million).

Using substandard mining techniques and unwilling to invest in new equipment, operators of the private and collective mines often cut costs by ignoring safety regulations, thus posing a serious threat to workers.

In the first three months of this year alone, 724 miners died in accidents, compared with 1,058 for the whole of 1993.

A related report in the People's Daily showed wastage is also a serious problem. Most owners of small mines lack expertise and for each tonne of coal are mined, only 10 per cent is utilised.

Attempts by the central government to exert greater control over the coal sector have been frustrated by a lack of official cooperation at local level.

Coal mining is often the quickest and easiest way for farmers to earn a decent wage and small mines provide an important source of local revenue.

In what amounts to a tacit recognition by the authorities that small mines are here to stay, the government is to invest unspecified sums over the next three years to help township and other mines upgrade safety standards.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY MAY 30, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Find a new way to solving a difficult problem this Memorial Day as you sidestep a fair-weather friend who is really just taking up space. Get rid of whatever is causing disharmony. Develop closer ties.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Use particular care in motion today and avoid possible trouble. Be sure to keep promises you have made to fellow associates and close friends.

Taurus: (April 20 to May 20) Use good sense in the handling of finances and be exact with facts and figures. Be careful of your reputation especially around a troublemaker.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Take care you don't waste valuable time over something insignificant or you could lose out where it counts the most on an important project.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You get poor advice from a trusted adviser now, so use your own good judgment for best results on getting a new assignment completed.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Avoid being with friends who are highly sensitive and cultivate those who are more stable. Avoid a group affair where no one is known at the event.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Don't jeopardize your good name in any way now and

stay out of trouble. Your creative ideas need expression now to get noticed by the right people.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Study new worthwhile ventures but don't commit yourself to anything yet. Safeguard your good credit standing so you get what is needed in an emergency.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Find out what could be annoying your mate and do something constructive about it. Show others you have wisdom to get the solution to a problem.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Situations arise at this time in connection with associates that need the right handling. Maintain a cheerful manner even under pressure.

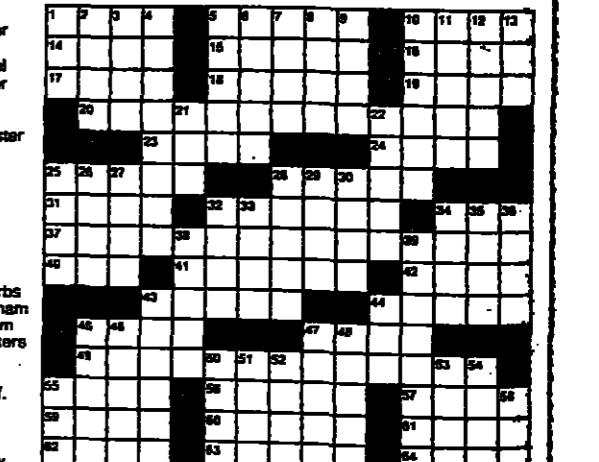
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Don't neglect important work you have to do early in the day. You are able to communicate well with others now on the solution of a problem.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You could be tempted to have a good time at needless high costs, so forget it. Make this a profitable day instead of wasting money on needless things.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Don't make matters worse than they are at home by unnecessary arguments. Show others that you can be relied upon when there is a crisis at hand.

THE Daily Crossword

by Gerald R. Ferguson



THE BETTER HALF® By Glasbergen



"Stanley's buddies all knew he didn't like rice, so they threw potatoes."

JUMBLE® THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NOPER

JONEY

REDAIM

FUELEY

Print answer here: A _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: AGENT MOUNT CHEERY MISFIT

Answer: How unsuccessful archeologists often find their careers — IN RUINS*

13 River to the North Sea	14 Glaciers	15 Geese	16 Sheep
21 Hunter's term	22 "Hairy" (Tomin family)	23 Rotisserie	24 Snorkel
25 "Tokyo, e.g.	26 "Tokyo, e.g.	27 Snorkel's dog	28 Transfer picture
31 "Sister"	32 "Tokyo, e.g.	33 "Tokyo, e.g.	34 Peevish
35 "Tokyo, e.g.	36 Will of firms	37 "Tokyo, e.g.	38 "Tokyo, e.g.
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Serbs cooperate as hopes for Bosnia ceasefire rise

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Bosnian Serb forces have lifted restrictions on U.N. military observers as hopes grow that the three sides in the conflict may sign an overall ceasefire within days, U.N. sources said Sunday.

Serb commanders, in a goodwill gesture, agreed to allow the observers to patrol freely in the heavy weapons exclusion zone around the Muslim town of Gorazde in eastern Bosnia.

Earlier, Serb forces hampered the observers' work in defiance of a local truce agreed when they halted an offensive against Gorazde last month under threat of NATO air strikes.

They lifted the restrictions Saturday as U.N. envoy Yasushi Akashi called leaders of warring Serbs, Croats and Muslims to Geneva on June 2 and 3 for talks on a comprehensive ceasefire to end 26 months of fighting in Bosnia.

U.N. sources told Reuters that international mediators believed the foes could be prepared to sign a four-month, Bosnia-wide ceasefire.

A senior member of the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) said it would entail interposing U.N. troops between the combatants, the creation of a buffer zone and withdrawal of heavy weapons.

"We have been asked to draft a ceasefire agreement and the chief of staff is looking at troop needs," he added.

Bosnian Serbs had been pressing for a permanent ceasefire.

Muslims and their Croat allies have argued for a two-month truce fearing that a longer one would serve to freeze the military gains of the Serbs, who control 70 per cent of the territory.

U.N. sources said they might not need more troops to supervise the ceasefire even though

it would involve monitoring many hundreds of kilometres of lines of confrontation.

"It will not be a Sarajevo-type situation where we had to interpose U.N. troops all the way around the city," said one U.N. officer familiar with the evolving plans.

U.N. troops, backed by the threat of NATO air strikes, created heavy weapons exclusion zone around Sarajevo in February and successfully interposed themselves between government and Serb forces around the city.

Britain and France have threatened to withdraw peacekeeping troops from Bosnia unless a comprehensive settlement to the war is achieved during the summer.

The Geneva ceasefire meeting would take place between rounds of talks involving the warring factions and an international "contact group" to discuss how to divide up Bosnia between the Muslim-Croat alliance and Serbs.

The first round in France last week ended with both sides saying little was achieved and blaming each other for the stalemate. The next round is due to be held on June 6 and 7.

The mediators have proposed that the Muslim-Croat alliance should get 51 per cent of Bosnia and the Serbs 49 per cent.

Bosnian Serb leader Radoj Karadzic, quoted by the Belgrade-based Tanjug news agency, said the Serbs would have to cede some territory but how much and which parts would be decided by parliament or by a referendum.

Meanwhile, Bosnian army chief General Rasim Delic said Sunday, the mainly Muslim Bosnian government army is steeling itself for a new round of offensives to ensure the future Muslim-Croat federation "will have dimensions achieved on the battlefield."

On a tour of army units, Gen. Delic urged Bosnian politicians to take more account of the needs of their troops as "that is what the percentage of land which our state will occupy depends on, rather than on" (international mediators) David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg.

U.N. troops, backed by the threat of NATO air strikes, created heavy weapons exclusion zone around Sarajevo in February and successfully interposed themselves between government and Serb forces around the city.

The army has already managed to progress westwards in central Bosnia around Travnik and Turbe, and in the north, around Tesanj. Further pushes have also seen the Muslims press eastwards within central Bosnia near Kladanj and towards Olov to the north east.

However, the actual territorial gains are difficult to quantify and unspectacular, mostly constituting just a few kilometres of forest here and there.

General Jovan Divjak, the army's number two and himself a Serb, explains the army strategy by saying the object is to "defend territory already held, snatch back from the enemy territories where Bosnian towns are under threat and harry or cut its lines and means of communication."

The strategy has allowed Bosnian units to gain ground around the heights of Vrijenac, from where the Serbs were bombing Tuzla and Lukavac in the north east, as well as around the plateau at Nisici, overlooking Olov to eastern central Bosnia. They are now turning their efforts towards neutralising the radio transmitter at Stolice, in the north east, and possibly that at Vlasic in western central Bosnia. The plateau there is a strategic height threatening nearby Travnik and leads to Domj Vakuf, Jajce and Kotor Varos.

The mediators have proposed that the Muslim-Croat alliance should get 51 per cent of Bosnia and the Serbs 49 per cent.

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Nothing new in N. Korea nuclear offer

VIENNA (R) — The U.N. nuclear safeguards agency said Sunday North Korea had offered the U.N. nothing new in its blocked bid to examine the spent fuel of a suspect reactor and see if plutonium had been siphoned off to make bombs.

A spokesman for the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) reported no fresh offers from Pyongyang. The agency's reactor inspection team was already back in Vienna after failed negotiations, he added.

Asked for reaction to a reported North Korean proposal to store the spent fuel rods from the five-megawatt Yongbyon nuclear reactor for later inspection, he said this sounded like an offer the IAEA had already rejected as insufficient.

"We have to decide which fuel elements to sample, otherwise we cannot determine where they came from," spokesman Hans Meyer told Reuters.

In a statement Saturday, the IAEA said talks with North Korea to resolve the issue had reached no agreement.

Mr. Meyer repeated that, in order to verify with assurance whether the rods were the originals placed in the reactor in 1986, agency inspectors must be able to "segregate, select and secure" certain fuel rods for testing.

Throughout the 16-month dispute, the United States, Western powers and Asian

aliens have pursued a policy of gentle persuasion, offering North Korea economic concessions in return for allowing inspections and abandoning any nuclear bomb aspirations it might harbour.

The threat of international sanctions has been kept in the background throughout the long wrangling.

Following Pyongyang's fresh rejection of IAEA checks, however, the U.N. Security Council could issue a warning to North Korea that it has run out of patience.

In what appeared to be a bid to keep options open, a North Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman, quoted by the official KCNA news agency early Sunday, said the rods could be inspected if negotiations with the United States resolved a dispute over Pyongyang's nuclear programme.

Sampling could go ahead in the future if North Korea "undergoes routine and ad hoc inspections with a package solution of the nuclear issue" agreed by Pyongyang and Washington, he was quoted as saying.

But this appeared to hark back again to what North Korea claims is its "unique status", created when it unilaterally suspended its membership of the safeguards accord which backs up the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

The "unique status" formula, which is not recognised by the IAEA, would effectively give North Korea the ability to pick and choose which safe-

guards agreements to honour.

North Korea strongly denies any form of nuclear weapons development and warns that sanctions would be tantamount to an act of war — a terrifying prospect on the world's most heavily fortified frontier, where 35,000 U.S. troops are committed to defend South Korea.

Washington suspects that the Yongbyon reactor was stopped for 100 days in 1989 so that plutonium could be extracted from its fuel rods to make one or two crude nuclear bombs.

North Korea has refused to halt the refuelling process it started unilaterally earlier this month, claiming that to do so would create the risk of radioactive contamination.

The IAEA says the reactor is now undergoing refuelling at "a very fast pace."

"Almost half of the fuel in the reactor core has been discharged and in a pattern that has precluded the agency's ability to implement the full range of the safeguards measures required," IAEA Director-General Hans Blix said in a report to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Friday.

If this continued at the same rate, the possibility of meaningful sampling would be "lost within days", Mr. Blix said.

The stalemate coincided with fresh reports that North Korea was preparing to test a nuclear-capable, long-range missile.

The guerrillas of Khun Sa's Mong Tai Army (MTA) said they attacked Burmese troop reinforcements with remote-

three weeks later.

Colombia, which has an estimated 32 million people, is the world's leading cocaine exporter and a major grower of marijuana, but drugs have hardly been mentioned in the elections.

Instead, Mr. Samper and Mr. Pastrana have fought low-key campaigns designed by image advisers and focusing mainly on economic and social issues. Policy differences have been minimised and even the slogans were similar: Mr. Pas-

Colombians vote in photo-finish election

BOGOTA (R) — Colombians elect a new president Sunday in a photo-finish race between free market conservative Andres Pastrana and Liberal Party rival Ernesto Samper, who wants a bigger role for the government.

Opinion polls published in the past week suggest neither candidate will win the 50 per cent plus one of the votes needed for outright victory, meaning the contest to succeed popular President Cesar Gaviria will go to a second round

neighbours and those inside the residence ranged from 20 to 124.

The Belgian ambassador arrived several hours later but drove onto the grounds without making any comment. He left later to meet with Cuban officials, according to a diplomatic source.

Bystanders said some of the group demanding to leave the Communist-ruled island had climbed over the mansion's spiked, wrought-iron fence and

opened it to let others in.

Police reinforcements arrived and cordoned off the area shortly after the incident.

A group of smiling young Cubans at the residence gathered near a rear entrance shortly after the incident began. One, a woman, held an infant in the air while another held up a sign reading "down with Fidel," a reference to President Fidel Castro.

The scene appeared peaceful with police posted 20 metres apart around the residence.

Cubans hole up in Belgian envoys residence

HAVANA (R) — Dozens of Cubans climbed over and opened wrought-iron gates at the Belgian ambassador's residence in Havana Saturday and were holed up inside to demand political asylum, witnesses said.

A reliable foreign diplomat, who asked not to be identified by name, told Reuters there were 114 men, women and children inside the residence. Earlier reports of the numbers seeking asylum coming from Cuban police officials.

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**NEWS IN BRIEF****Favoured Narita Brian wins Japan Derby**

TOKYO (AP) — Narita Brian won the Japan Derby by five lengths Sunday, leaving the heavily favoured 3-year-old colt one victory away from capturing Japanese horse racing's Triple Crown. Narita Brian, a son of 1988 Florida Derby winner Brian's Time, also extended his winning streak to six races. His career record now is eight victories, one second and one third in 11 starts. The dark bay colt won the Triple Crown's first race, the Satsuki-Sho, in April, setting a course record of 1 minute, 59.0 seconds over the 2,000-metre track. The third race, the Kikuka-Sho, comes in November. In Sunday's 248 million yen (\$2.3 million) race, jockey Katsumi Minazawa guided Narita Brian, sent off as a 1-5 favourite, on the outside on the backstretch and followed pace-setting Ines Souther before turning for home. Then Narita Brian took the command and already was a clear winner with 100 metres to go. He finished the 2,400-metre (1 1/4-mile) course in 2 minutes, 27.7 seconds. Air Dublin came in second, five lengths behind and two lengths in front of Yashima Sovereign in a field of 18. The victory, worth 130 million yen (\$1.2 million), increased the champion's career earnings to 496.5 million yen (\$4.7 million).

Mohammad Ali given honorary degree

NEWTON, Mass. (AP) — Floats like a butterfly, stings like a Ph.D. Mohammad Ali won another title Saturday, an honorary law doctorate from Little Mount Ida College. "I've been called the king. I've been called the greatest. I've been called champ," Ali said in receiving his first college degree. "And now I can be called the doc." The three-time heavyweight champion wore a black cap and gown, marching onto the stage with Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller and other honorary degree recipients. Paul Dunphy, the college's vice president for student development, drew a standing ovation when he said the honorary degree for Ali was long overdue. "To be near Mohammad Ali is to touch the timeless and universal spirit in us all," Dunphy said, before handing the degree to Ali. "He is a true leader, he does what he says. He is the greatest."

World Cup finalists U.S., Greece draw

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (R) — With the World Cup just three weeks away, the United States drew 1-1 with fellow finalists Greece Saturday, the Americans' ninth tie in 17 warmup matches this year. The game was a dream come true for Greek-born U.S. striker Klopas, who put the Americans ahead just before halftime in the first ever international between the United States and Greece, where he plays professionally for Aek Athens. But young Greek midfielder Minas Chatzidis equalised early in the second half with a spectacular shot.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH KIRSCH

CAUGHT STEALING

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH	Q 9	K 8 7	A Q J 7	6 5 4
EAST	4 3 2	10 9 8	10 9 8	10 9 8
SOUTH	4 5	6 5 4	6 5 4	6 5 4
WEST	2 1	10 9 8 7	10 9 8 7	10 9 8 7

The bidding:

North	Pass	South	West
1 NT	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♦

Tom McCarver is perhaps best known as one of the finest catchers in the game, first for the St. Louis Cardinals and later for the Philadelphia Phillies. Today he is arguably the top baseball color commentator on the radio. He helped Bill McCarver produce the jack and three more spade tricks completed a one-trick set.

Hill wins Spanish Grand Prix

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Damon Hill of Britain won the Spanish Grand Prix Sunday to end Michael Schumacher's four-race winning streak.

Schumacher came in second 24.166 seconds behind Hill's Williams-Renault.

Mark Blundell took third in a Tyrrell-Yamaha more than a minute behind.

Hill's victory puts him into second place for the driver's standings of the season with 17 points. Schumacher is still far ahead with 47 points.

"This was very important to do well," Hill said. "This victory must go to the team Williams who have had a difficult time lately."

"And also the fans of Ayrton Senna in Brazil who said to me that they wanted me to do well."

Senna was killed in a crash at the San Marino Grand Prix exactly four weeks ago.

Hill did 1 hour, 36 minutes, 14.374 seconds for the 65 laps of the 4.747-kilometre course.

That compared to 1:32:27.685 that Alain Prost did in winning last year's race.

starting 26 were running at the end of the race on a humid and sunny day.

Jean Alesi in a Ferrari was fourth followed by Pier-Luigi Martini in a Minardi-Ford with fifth. Eddie Irvine, in his first race after a three-race suspension, took sixth in a Jordan-Hart.

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This year's track was altered slightly when the drivers requested a new small curve, or chicane, bordered by trees at the end of a small straightaway.

Off the track, Italian driver Andrea Montermini was reported in good spirits as he recovered from injuries following a crash Saturday.

"Andrea is fine, he slept well and today he's in good form and wants to go home," said Paolo Montermini, the driver's father, speaking from the General Hospital of Catalonia.

He said Andrea hoped to leave the hospital and return home sometime Monday.

Doctors reported he had a broken toe in his right foot and a cracked heel in his left but said that tests show there had been no brain damage. Montermini, making his debut for the Simtek-Ford team, escaped serious injury when he crashed heavily at about 200 kilometres an hour while rounding a curve Saturday.

Piercer, based in Florida but playing for France, routed a more formidable foe, South Africa's Amanda Coetzter, 6-1, 6-1.

Piercer has lost only four games in four matches and won her 21st straight game at 4-0 in the first set before Coetzter snapped the streak. Both are modern-era French open records.

Joining them in the quarterfinals were second-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, who beat error-plagued Anke Huber of Germany, 6-3, 6-2, and No. 3 Conchita Martinez, a 6-1, 6-2 victory over 24th-ranked Alexia Dechaume-Balleret of France.

But another unseeded Frenchwoman, Julie Halar, upset seventh-seeded Natalia Zvereva of Belarus, 7-6 (7-2), 7-5.

Fourth-seeded Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine became the first man into the quarterfinals, defeating Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 6-1. Medvedev reached the semifinals last year before losing to eventual champion Sergi Bruguera.

Also advancing to the round of 16 with five-set victories were Magnus Larsson of Sweden, Javier Frana of Argentina and Hendrik Dierckx of Belgium. Larsson upset ninth-seeded Todd Martin 6-7 (7-5), 6-3, 6-0, 1-6, 6-3.

Midway through the tournament, 12 of the men's 16 seeds have been eliminated — an open era record for the French.

While the bottom half has been decimated, the top half remains loaded with the tournament favourites. No. 1 Pete Sampras, Medvedev, No. 6 Bruguera and No. 7 Jim Courier.

Pacers beat Knicks, hold New York to record-low 68 points

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana (R) — The Indiana Pacers held the Knicks to an NBA playoff record-low point total in an 88-68 rout Saturday that cut New York's lead to two games to one in the Eastern Conference finals.

Derrick McKey scored 15 points, while Reggie Miller and Rik Smits added 14 points apiece to lead the Pacers in a game dominated by defence.

Incredibly, New York's All-Star centre Patrick Ewing, who scored 32 points and 28 points as the Knicks swept the first two games on the best-of-seven series at home, scored only one point in the game. Ewing was 0-10 from the field.

The Knicks' 68 points were the lowest ever since the 24-shot clock was instituted. The record had been the 69 points Indiana scored in a loss to Atlanta this year.

"With Patrick (Ewing) not scoring, we're up against it for points," Knicks coach Pat Riley admitted.

Pacers coach Larry Brown said: "I felt we could compete with them and I hoped we

could get a game like this to show our team that we could."

"Getting a game when you give up only 68 points, I'm proud of our defence," Brown said. "We always have good defence, but we have a little bit tentative."

Game four will be played here Monday afternoon.

Indiana, who had lost all four regular-season meetings against New York, trailed the Knicks 39-37 at halftime but limited them to just 29 points in the second half by forcing them into a miserable 8-of-29 from the field.

Beating the Knicks for the first time this year got the monkey off our back," said Pacers' guard Reggie Miller, who was hampered by early foul trouble.

"We made a better effort to defend today," Pacers guard Byron Scott said. "Everybody came ready to play and we did a very good job on Ewing."

Ewing missed all seven of his first-half shots and collected three fouls. He picked up his fourth foul 51 seconds into the third period and sat out the

rest of the quarter.

Haywood Workman scored seven points in the third quarter to lead the Pacers, and Smits added six points in six minutes. All of Smits' points came when the Pacers outscored the Knicks 13-4 right after Ewing went to the bench.

Ewing scored his only point on a free throw with 6:39 left and Indiana ahead 71-57.

Fourth-seeded Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine became the first man into the quarterfinals, defeating Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Medvedev reached the semifinals last year before losing to eventual champion Sergi Bruguera.

Also reaching her first

Grand Slam quarterfinals was Petra Ritter of Austria, a 7-6 (7-2), 4-6, 6-0 victor over Romania's Ruxandra Dragomir. Ritter, ranked only 103rd,

Graf, Vicario, Pierce reach quarterfinals of French Open

PARIS (AP) — Top-seeded Steffi Graf and No. 12 Mary Pierce came a step closer to a semifinal showdown with devastating fourth-round victories Sunday at the French Open. Pierce smashed two records in the process.

"I just stepped up and hit the ball and played aggressively," said Pierce. "I didn't make very many mistakes."

Sanchez Vicario had little trouble ousting the 11th-seeded Huber, who committed 45 unforced errors. Even a bad fall in the sixth game of the second set didn't slow the 22-year-old Spaniard, who along with Pierce is considered one of the few serious threats to

guerra.

Coetzter, ranked 18th in the world, battled gamely, but Pierce repeatedly rocketed ground strokes and service returns out of her reach.

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Pierce, based in Florida but playing for France, routed a more formidable foe, South Africa's Amanda Coetzter, 6-1, 6-1.

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Joining them in the quarterfinals were second-seeded Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, who beat error-plagued Anke Huber of Germany, 6-3, 6-2, and No. 3 Conchita Martinez, a 6-1, 6-2 victory over 24th-ranked Alexia Dechaume-Balleret of France.

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will play Pierce Tuesday.

The last American woman in the field, Shae Stafford, lost 6-4, 6-2 to 16th-seeded Sabine Hack of Germany, who plays Martinez next.

On Saturday, in the conclusion of men's third-round play, five matches were decided in five sets, including thriller involving fourth-seeded Goran Ivanisevic and No. 8 Michael Chang.

By day's end, only one seeded player was left in the bottom half of the draw — one.

In one of the best comebacks of his career, Ivanisevic overcame Spanish clay-court expert Alex Corretja 6-7 (7-3), 6-1, 6-2, 6-3.

In a simultaneous match on court A, Chang engineered one of his patented five-set rallies but fell short against Peru's Jaime Yzaga in a 2-hour, 25-minute thriller. Chang finished 6-2, 6-3, 3-1, 6-7, 7-5.

Also advancing to the round of 16 with five-set victories were Magnus Larsson of Sweden, Javier Frana of Argentina and Hendrik Dierckx of Belgium.

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Please rush name, age, weight, height, experience, address, phone and 1994 coloured photo (advertiser guarantees confidentiality and photo return) to:

P.O. Box 911303 Luweldeh, Amman.

Opponents reach three no trump on the auction shown. As the cards lie, with North as declarer, that contract would have coasted home, but after the lead of the four of spades the defenders were in the baffle.

Dummy's queen was covered by East's king and declarer made a slight technical error by ducking — that would help only if spades were 7-2 and winning might cause a defender to wonder who held the missing spade honor, or the suit might block. The spade return was a good one and declarer saw that realistically, the only hope for the contract was to find the diamond on side.

There was one slight extra chance — that West had a singleton club. So before starting on diamonds, declarer led a club from hand and was delighted when West produced the king.

